

North Carolina Department of Transportation

NEPA/SEPA Consultation Form

STIP Project No.	BR-0114
WBS Element	48823.1.1
Federal Aid Project No.	2020001

A. Project Description, Location, and Purpose:

The replacement of Bridge No. 480165 is part of the *Growing Rural Economy and Agriculture through Transportation and Technology Enhancement or Replacement in North Carolina* (GREATTER-NC) Project under the United States Department of Transportation's 2018 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant program.

The purpose of this grant and bridge replacement project is to provide transportation infrastructure to support economic development and improve physical and digital connectivity in rural communities in North Carolina.

Bridge No. 480165 on SR 1601 (Branton Road) over Rocky Creek in Iredell County has two 10-foot to 11-foot travel lanes and is approximately 90 in length. The proposed bridge will be approximately 102 feet in length with two 10-foot travel lanes and 3-foot 11-inch paved shoulders. The bridge length is based on preliminary design information and is set by hydraulic requirements. The roadway is classified as a Local Route with a 55-mile per hour design speed with a sag vertical curve (K value) design exception that will result in a speed limit reduction in the area of the bridge. The total length of the project is approximately 740 feet.

The bridge replacement will be constructed in place using an off-site detour and includes structural and geometric improvements.

B. Consultation Phase: (Check one)

- ☐ Right-of-Way
- ☒ Construction
- ☐ Other: Identify the trigger – (e.g., design change, change in impacts)

C. NEPA/SEPA Class of Action Initially Approved as: (Check one)

- ☒ FHWA Class II (CE) 7/10/2019

Additional Notes: **TYPE 1 A**

D. Changes in Proposed Action & Environmental Consequences:

The water resource classifications have not changed since the CE was completed.

As of July 17, 2020, the USFWS lists three protected species for Iredell County. NCDOT is in compliance with 4(d) with regard to the northern long-eared bat. Habitat is present for dwarf-flowered heartleaf; however, none were found in a 2019 survey, resulting in a biological conclusion of No Effect. No biological conclusion is required for the bog turtle. The list of protected species remain unchanged since the Categorical Exclusion was completed. No species have been added or removed for the county.

There have been no major changes to the design since the CE was approved.

NCDOT has reviewed the Section 106 effects findings for historic properties within the project's area of potential effects (APE), that were made as part of the NEPA analysis. NCDOT has confirmed there is no new information that would alter the original Section 106 findings and, therefore, they remain valid.

E. Conclusion:

The above NEPA/SEPA documentation has been reevaluated (as required by either 23 CFR 771 or by NC General Statute Chapter 113A Article 1). It has been determined that the current proposed action is essentially the same as the original proposed action. Proposed changes, if any, are noted in Section D. It has been determined that anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts were accurately described in the above referenced document(s) unless noted otherwise herein. Therefore, the original Administration Action remains valid.

F. Coordination

NCDOT personnel have discussed the current project parameters with qualified NCDOT representatives and FHWA (where applicable). The NCDOT Project Manager, Theresa Ellerby, hereby verifies the involvement of the following staff and the incorporation of their technical input:

Design Engineer:	Kevin Bailey	10/09/20
Environmental Specialist:	Bill Barrett	10/08/20
FHWA (if applicable):	N/A	N/A
Architectural Historian:	Mary Pope Furr	10/02/20
Hydraulics Engineer:	Brian Radakovic	10/09/20

G. Consultation Approval for NCDOT Project No. BR-0114

Prepared By:

10/28/2020

Date

DocuSigned by:

Theresa Ellerby

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Theresa Ellerby
NCDOT, Project Management Unit

Prepared For:

Jacquelyn Bowles, PE
NCDOT, Structure Management Unit

Reviewed By:

10/30/2020

Date

DocuSigned by:

John Jamison

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John Jamison, Team Lead
NCDOT, Environmental Policy Unit



Approved

In adherence with 23 CFR 771 (NEPA) or NC General Statute Chapter 113A Article 1 (SEPA), NCDOT approves this Consultation.

or



Certified

NCDOT staff certifies if FHWA signature was previously required or where changes have resulted in FHWA signature being required.

10/28/2020

Date

DocuSigned by:

David Stutts

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David Stutts, PE – Project Engineer – PEF/Program Management
North Carolina Department of Transportation

FHWA Approved: FHWA signature required for Type I(B) CE, Type II(B) CE, Type III CE, FONSI or ROD.

N/A

Date

John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

H. Project Commitments (as of October 2020)

**Iredell County
Bridge 165 on SR 1601 (Branton Road)
Over Rocky Creek
WBS Element 48823.1.1
TIP No. BR-0114**

Current status to the project commitments as shown in the CE for the project are printed in italics.

NCDOT Hydraulics Unit / Division 12

FEMA Coordination - The Hydraulics Unit will coordinate with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program (FMP), to determine status of project with regard to applicability of NCDOT'S Memorandum of Agreement, or approval of a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and subsequent final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

Status: *Coordination resulted in approval on June 22, 2020 for the FEMA NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program) under NCDOT's MOA with the FMP.*

This project involves construction activities on or adjacent to FEMA-regulated stream(s). Therefore, the Division shall submit sealed as-built construction plans to the Hydraulics Unit upon completion of project construction, certifying that the drainage structure(s) and roadway embankment that are located within the 100-year floodplain were built as shown in the construction plans, both horizontally and vertically.

NCDOT Structures Management Unit

Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) - NCDOT has determined that the proposed action does not require separate consultation on the grounds that the proposed action is consistent with the final Section 4(d) rule, codified at 50 C.F.R. § 17.40(o) and effective February 16, 2016. NCDOT may presume its determination is informed by best available information and consider Section 7 responsibilities fulfilled for NLEB.

NCDOT Structures Management Unit

Public Involvement Newsletter - Prior to ROW, newsletters will be sent out on behalf of NCDOT to the properties affected by the project to inform them of the project and the offsite detour.

Status: *Newsletters were mailed on behalf of NCDOT to property owners in November 2019.*

NCDOT Division 12

Off-site Detour - The detour route is approximately 3.75 miles long and follows SR 1447 (Pilgrim Church Road), SR 1600/SR 1449 (Fox Mountain Road), SR 1595 (Coolbrook Road), and SR 1598 (Linney's Mill Road). Bridge No. 480166, which is part of project No. BR-0115, is located along the detour route on SR 1595 (Coolbrook) and is a posted bridge. BR-0115 should be constructed prior to BR-0114.

Status: *Construction of BR-0114 and BR-0115 is combined under one contract. Construction of Bridge No. 480166 under BR-0115 will be constructed prior to BR-0114.*

NCDOT Division 12

Emergency Management Services - BR-0114 is located near the Iredell and Alexander county line and the off-site detour route crosses into Alexander County. NCDOT should coordinate with Iredell County EMS (Phone No. (704) 878-3025) and Alexander County EMS (Phone No. (828)632-9336), as mutual aid may be required during construction.

NCDOT Division 12

Agricultural Land Use - Continued coordination should occur through right of way with the owners of the agricultural lands that are temporarily impacted by the off-site detour.

Status: *NCDOT Division 12 will coordinate with owners of agricultural land at least one month prior to road closure.*

COMMITMENTS FROM PERMITTING**NCDOT Division 12**

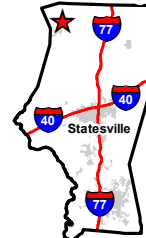
BR-0114 is authorized by Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit No. 13, as well as N.C. Water Quality General Certification No. 4134, without formal written approval. All permit conditions specified by the permit/certification must be met for this authorization to remain valid. If changes are made to the project design, written approval may be required.



Legend

- ★ Bridge No. 165 over Rocky Creek
- Project Study Area
- Stream
- NWI Wetland
- Floodplain
- Parcel
- NCDOT Bike Route
- ✙ Church
- Historic Site

Iredell County, NC



Sources: Iredell County GIS Department,
NC One Map, NC HPO GIS Portal,
& Google Earth

BR-0114
Bridge No. 165
Replacement Project
over Rocky Creek
Iredell County
NCDOT Division 12

February 2019

Study Area
Map

8/17/99

2/3/2020
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Joshua

